Regulation of Infant Foods

1916. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to repeal the Infant Milk substitutes, Feeding Bottles and Infant Foods (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 1992; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and if not, the specific reasons for not incorporating the provisions of the Act, particularly relating to provisions to promote and protect breastfeeding in the new intergrated food laws?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) The objective of formulating a modem Food Safety and Standard Bill, 2005, is to do away with the multiplicity of existing food laws and regulations and enforcement agencies and to bring them under single law and authority proposed to be set up under this Bill. Infant Milk Substitutes, Feeding Bottles and Infant Foods (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 1992 (IMS Act, 1992) is one of the Food Acts/Orders which are proposed to be repealed/amended on the enactment of the proposed Bill.

A Group of Ministers constituted by the Government to propose legislative and other changes required for preparing a modern Integrated Food Law, is presently considering the issue of the proposed repeal/amendment of Food Acts/Orders, including IMS Act, 1992.

Taking off of FPIs

1917. SHRIMATI S.G INDIRA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite India being a very significant producer of a large number of agricultural items, the country lags behind Philippines and China, as far as food processing industries are concerned;